
Native Village of Eyak Newsletter

P.O. Box 1388, Cordova, AK 99574 (907)424-7738 November, 1996

3rd ANNUAL SOBRIETY CELEBRATION!

It's that time of year again! The Native Village of Eyak's 3rd Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch is going to take place December 13th & 14th. We hope this year is going to be bigger and better than ever. A Sobriety Celebration Committee has been formed, and meets every Monday at noon at the Village office to discuss the upcoming events, problems encountered last year, and some great ideas to improve this year. With a celebration as large as this one, teamwork is essential, and the bigger the team the better! Everyone is welcome to join the Sobriety Committee...your input is needed! So bring a sack lunch, your ideas and support, and we'll see you at the next meeting.

To let you know what we've been up to so far, here is a brief rundown of goals and accomplishments for this year:

- * A bake sale was held on 9/28 at the Masonic. Our goal was \$200, and we exceeded it!
- * Another bake sale will be held Saturday, 11/2 at the Masonic.
- * We are looking at other fund-raising possibilities, such as a rummage sale and an auction.
- * We are currently organizing travel with the state ferry system for visitors and guests.
- * A skit will be performed at the Celebration, and we are seeking 10 youth to act in it.
- * We have arranged housing for out-of-town guests.
- * We are coordinating with several dance groups, musical groups, and keynote speakers to attend.

We are currently seeking volunteers to work on the cooking, fundraising, production, bunkhouse, and clean-up committees. If you are interested in helping out with this year's Sobriety Celebration, please give us a call and let us know which committee you would like to serve on, or just to give us your ideas.

CR/PWS NATIVE FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION

The Copper River/Prince William Sound Native Fishermen's Association was chartered by the Native Village of Eyak through the Traditional Council. This was done in an effort to represent the Native subsistence and commercial fish users of the area. Being an area-wide group which includes the recognized tribes of the Copper River/Prince William Sound Region, all people who are members of these tribes may be included in this organization. The membership in this association was set up in this manner as to not exclude any group or member. The group does not in any way wish to include any unwilling participants. We are just letting people know that all Native people of the Region are welcome. If you do not wish to participate as a group or personally, please contact Robert Hennrichs, Box 1000, Cordova, AK 99574, (907) 424-3604.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Well, our elections are over. Congratulations to Glenn Ujloka and Mark Hoover on their election to the Traditional Council. It was good to see Jack Hopkins and Ruth Vo'well throw their hats in the ring. We need more people to become involved.

Our Sobriety Day Celebration Committee meets at the Village office on Mondays at noon. We need more people to become involved in this also. There is a chance we can get the Atka Dancers to perform and do workshops with all the Dance Groups from our Region. The Elders in their region were instrumental in reviving their Dance Group. They brought in an Aleut from Russia who still knew the Traditional Ways. They were very well received at the last two AFN Conventions, received standing ovations. They will cost a little money, but everyone I talked to were enthusiastic. We will be doing fund-raisers between now and December 14. Individual donations are welcome.

We received a \$115,000 grant from EVOS Trustee Council to hold an Elders/Youth Conference on Subsistence in 1997. We will be bringing in Elders and Youth from the entire Oil Spill region, from as far west as Chignik. We plan to hold this the same time as our 1997 Sobriety Day Celebration.

We are moving forward with our plans to take over some of the programs Chugachmiut currently handles for us. Chugachmiut has done a good job, but it is time to move control of these programs to the local level. This will improve the services to our Tribal Members as well as opening more jobs in our Tribe.

While the health care has improved 1000% at the Cordova Medical Center in the past two years, I am still being asked by Tribal Members if we have plans to open our own clinic, as they have in other Chugachmiut Tribes. That option is always there. Let us know what you think. We hope to offer Alcohol and Mental Health Counseling in the future.

Bud Janson, Sr. will be working on the membership list for the Copper River / Prince William Sound Native Fishermen's Association. A draft of our by-laws is being worked up.

Our Council recently met with the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. LeRoy Key, and the Grade School Principal Bruce Bruseeth. We discussed having Native Culture courses in the school system. There is a chance we could get something going next semester. We are working on the money situation, as there is no money in the budget at this time. We need to prepare our children to compete on the world wide job market. While we can't do anything about the other school systems in our state, we can do something about our local schools. Think about it.

The eight Copper River Tribes have invited us to a meeting on November 7, in Glenallen, to discuss the formation of the Copper River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission. It is time we united and defend our 10,000 year history of supporting our families from the Copper River. The sports fishermen and dipnetters are well organized and coming after us, big time. If the State of Alaska won't listen to us, the U.S. Government will.

We will be organizing proxy deer hunts for those in our Tribe who are unable to get their own deer.

The Coast Guard License classes are scheduled to start on November 4. Everyone who is planning on taking this course should get their paperwork in.

Stop by the office or give us a call and let us know what you think on these issues.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bob Hennrich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Bob" is written with a large, looped 'B'. The last name "Hennrich" is written with a series of connected, slightly slanted letters. The signature is positioned at the bottom right of the page, below the printed text.

NATIVE ABORIGINAL RIGHTS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

Eyak, Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, Port Graham, and Nanwalek

v.

Trawler Diane Marie ET AL.

In 1989, the Federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held that although ANCSA extinguished aboriginal rights "in Alaska", it did not extinguish such rights on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). Nevertheless, the Federal Government has steadfastly refused to acknowledge that Alaska Coastal Tribes held such rights and instead has contended that such rights were extinguished by other statutes and prior Court decisions.

In the spring of 1995, the Villages of Eyak, Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, Port Graham, and Nanwalek filed suit against the Secretaries of Commerce and Interior, challenging the government's position. Their suit seeks to establish their aboriginal title and their exclusive hunting and fishing rights to their traditional use areas on the OCS. Their complaint also seeks to enjoin the Secretary of Interior from selling oil leases within or near the villages' aboriginal fishing grounds and to invalidate the Commerce Department's Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) regulations, in so far as they purport to authorize non-tribal members to fish within the villages' aboriginal territories or bar tribal members from fishing within their own aboriginal fishing grounds.

The case is presently pending before U.S. District Court Judge H. Russell Holland. All of the briefs have now been filed on the legal issues as to whether the villages are barred from claiming aboriginal rights to the OCS. The Court is expected to schedule oral argument in the near future, with decision likely later this winter or spring.

If the villages prevail, a factual trial will be held at which they will put on testimony and evidence showing their historical and contemporary use of their respective areas of the OCS. If the villages lose on the legal issues, they will appeal to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The case is important, not only because it will provide rights and protections for the five Plaintiff Villages, but because it will set a precedent for the other 50 plus coastal villages.

Funding for this case has come through generous grants from Chugach Alaska Corporation, Chugachmiut and Chugach Regional Resources Commission, the Administration for Native Americans, and continuing support of the Native American Rights Fund.

REBURIAL CEREMONY

On September 26, 1996 remains of our ancestors were returned from Denmark to their resting grounds in the Chugach Region. The repatriation blessing took place at St. Michael's, and was followed by a memorial potlatch at the Masonic Hall. The Ikarnit Alutiiq Dance Group performed at the potlatch in honor of the occasion. The next day, Bob Herricks, John Johnson, Monica and Steve Riedel, and Mark King returned the remains home. The reburial was videotaped and submitted to "Heartbeat Alaska", and was aired two weeks later.

CONTEST!

We are having a contest to find the perfect design for this year's Sobriety Celebration T-shirts. The prize for the design we choose is \$100! The deadline for the contest is Friday, November 8th, by 4:00 p.m.. The design must include the words "Native Village of Eyak's Third Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch". If you have any questions, please call the Village office.

COMPACTING

What is "compacting"? As of October 1, 1994, the Alaska Tribal Health Compact between Certain Alaska Native Tribes and the United States of America was put into effect. The purpose of this compact is to carry out an unprecedented Self-Governance Demonstration Project in the areas of health planning, funding and program operations within the government to government relationship between the Tribes and the United States. This compact allows participating tribes to exercise meaningful authority to plan, conduct, and administer those programs and services to meet the health care needs of Alaska Native Tribes. The Native Village of Eyak has submitted a resolution to Chugachmiut to begin to take over our share of programs under this agreement, as Chugachmiut is currently administering the compacting for our tribe. We hope to have it in place by January 1997, although an exact date can not be determined at this point. We will keep you posted.

BAZAAR

St. Ann's Sisterhood Bazaar will be held at St. Joseph's Church on December 7, from 1 - 4pm.

SOBRIETY DONATIONS

Last year's Sobriety Celebration was a huge success. We had hundreds of visitors from all over Alaska and the Lower 48 come to town for the event, including several dance groups and speaker.

A major event like this takes a lot of funding to pull it together, and the Village mainly depends on donations to keep it running. Expenses such as travel, honorariums, rentals, supplies, food, etc., really add up. For the previous two years we have been blessed with the generosity of our local businesses and residents of Cordova, plus some out of town donations. However, most of the cost continues to come out of Native Village of Eyak funds.

We hope to put your name on our "Thank You" list of contributors this year. Any cash donation is needed and welcome! Please send donations to The Native Village of Eyak, c/o Sobriety Celebration, P.O. Box 1388, Cordova, AK 99574, or drop them by the office any time between 9 and 4, Monday through Friday. Don't forget that your donations are tax deductible!

ATTENTION PARENTS!

We are seeking interested parents and community members to join our Johnson O'Malley committee, which was formed to allocate funding for our youth. This year we have approximately \$9,000 to work with, and we need the committee to generate ideas on which cultural activities we will hold for our youth this year with the J.O.M. funding. If you would like to join, please call Diane at 7738.

HUD GRANT DENIED

In August we applied for a HUD grant for a cultural center and clinic for our Tribe. Unfortunately, we missed winning the grant by 1 point. We received 93 out of 100 points, but with so much competition for this grant, 94 points was the minimum allowed. We will be reviewing the grant and reapply next spring.

ANNIVERSARIES

We would like to congratulate the following couples on their wedding anniversaries:

- ♥ Bud & Stella Janson on August 9th - 46 years
- ♥ George & Sylvia Allen on September 30th - 40 years
- ♥ Andy & Myra Allen on September 30th - 30 years
- ♥ Russell & Jane Allen on September 30th - 6 years

Congratulations!

Do you have an anniversary, birthday, or special event coming up? Let us know! we would like to include you in our next newsletter!

WELCOME ANNA NICOLE ROBERTSON

We would like to congratulate Bruce and Teresa Robertson on the birth of their daughter, Anna Nicole, who was born on September 20th. Anna weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 20 inches long. Her older sister Jessica, who is four, is delighted with her new baby sister!

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The Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council and Staff wish to express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jerry Barnes and Elaine Caudill.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

We are working on updating our tribal enrollment and Indian Health Service lists. If you have a change of address, please let us know immediately. Also, we may be making calls to members if we need updated or missing information.

**NOVEMBER 5
DON'T FORGET TO
VOTE!**



ICWA INPUT - WORKING WITH CHILDREN WHO HAVE WITNESSED ABUSE

1. Recognize and deal with the child's fear of being in a home where violence may erupt. Such children feel very vulnerable, although this may be hidden by a tough facade.
 2. Many children learn from their parents that violence is a way to solve problems -- fighting, hitting, brute aggression. These children often have no skills of talking about their feelings, so they act them out aggressively. Help the mother, teacher, etc., to encourage these children to talk about their feelings rather than act them out. It is especially useful with some mothers to teach them to model this behavior for their kids.
 3. Some children react to violence in the home by withdrawing.
 4. Many children have a low tolerance for frustration. They are easily upset and thrown off balance.
 5. Children have a difficult time separating out their own identity since they are so caught up in these intense conflicts. This may result in difficulty with peers.
 6. A common dilemma for the child is to be in the middle of the struggle between parents.
 7. Getting the father to be responsible to them is a problem for both boys and girls.
 8. Some children become involved in protecting their mothers from physical harm. This may result in their feeling angry at their fathers and consequently feeling guilty about this. It may also result in the children feeling resentful toward their mothers (dislike them for being weak, etc.).
 9. The boys desperately want their father's attention. They may relate to the father only on a play level. They make no demands for understanding or parental responsibility. They sometimes actively side with the father against the mother. A high percentage of men who beat their wives say their fathers beat their mothers.
 10. Girls also want their father's attention. Because they have often been severely punished for being angry or showing anger to their fathers, they tend to identify with the aggressor, feel sorry for their fathers, they tend to be angry with their mothers. Girls often grow up insecure about their ability to get men to love them and have difficulty forming equal partnerships in marriage. Such daughters may marry violent men because they learned to expect beatings as normal and inevitable.
 11. It is important to help the mother help the children with the realities of the father's behavior. Many mothers, not wishing to turn their children against their fathers, protect the father and make excuses for him. Mothers must be helped to deal more realistically so they can help their children face reality.
 12. Help the mother to discuss honestly the new financial situation with the children. Many mothers, not wanting to worry their children hide the facts from them. Consequently, the children do not understand and can not react properly.
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ICWA cont.

13. Mothers under severe stress do not have the energy to nurture their children, so the children tend to be deprived and neglected of the attention they need at this time in their lives. It is important to give active support to such mothers, for instance, day care for younger children, involve supportive school counselors with older children, etc..
 14. When as is often the case, the child acts out in school, the mother's tendency is to get angry with the child and punish him/her. It is important to give mothers help in seeing that this isolates the child and also how she can support the child in his/her difficulty.
- In most families, violence is never spoken of. Help the children and mother to talk about it so that they can share their fear, hurt, anger, etc..

SOBRIETY CELEBRATION AUDITIONS!

The 3rd Annual Sobriety Celebration Committee is seeking 9 teens to participate in the Turnaround Skit, which will perform on December 14th at the Sobriety Celebration. Teens may contact Laura at 7738 no later than November 20th.